

**Notice of Allowability**

Applicant(s)

10/710,597

Examiner

Ida M. Soward

Applicant(s)

LAI, HAN-CHUNG

Art Unit

2822

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Applicant's amendment filed March 16, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This Office Action is in response to the Applicant's amendment filed March 16, 2006.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not disclose, make obvious, or otherwise suggest the structure of the applicant's together with the other limitations of the independent claims, such as:

In claim 1, "a plurality of scan lines disposed over the substrate; a plurality of data lines disposed over the substrate. wherein the substrate is defined into a plurality of pixel area by the scan lines and the data lines; a plurality of thin film transistors driven by the scan line: and the data lines, wherein each thin film transistor is disposed in one of the pixel areas correspondingly; an etching stop layer disposed over the scan lines, wherein the etching stop layer has a plurality of openings; and a plurality of pixel electrodes, each pixel electrode is disposed in one of the pixel areas and is electrically connected to one of the thin film transistors correspondingly, wherein a portion of each pixel electrode is coupled to one of the scan lines through one of the openings to form a storage capacitor"; and

In claim 9, "a plurality of scan lines disposed over the substrate; a plurality of data lines disposed over the substrate, wherein the substrate is defined into a plurality of pixel areas by the scan lines and the data lines; a plurality of thin film transistors driven by the scan lines and the data lines, wherein each thin film transistor is disposed in one of the pixel areas correspondingly; a plurality of common lines disposed over the substrate, wherein each common line is located between two adjacent scan lines; an etching stop layer disposed over the common lines. wherein the etching stop layer has a plurality of openings: and a plurality of pixel electrodes each pixel electrode is disposed in one of the pixel areas and is electrically connected to one of the thin film transistors correspondingly, wherein a portion of each pixel electrode is coupled to one of the scan lines through one of the openings to form a storage capacitor".

The dependent claims being further limiting and definite are also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to thin film transistor arrays:

Ahn et al. (US 2001/0031510 A1)

Chen et al. (US 6,362,028 B1)

Dai et al. (US 6,989,299 B2)

Huang (US 6,714,269 B1)

Liao et al. (US 2004/0140469 A1)

Matsueda (5,173,792)

Possin et al. (5,041,888)

Tsai et al. (5,959,312)

Wu (5,828,082).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ida M. Soward whose telephone number is 571-272-1845. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zandra V. Smith can be reached on 571-272-2429. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/710,597  
Art Unit: 2822

Page 5

IMS  
May 30, 2006

*William M. Saunders*  
*Art 2822*